

To: R1NewsClips[R1NewsClips@epa.gov]
From: Elliott, Rodney
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Subject: Daily NEWSCLIPS - Saturday, August 8th, 2015 r1newsclips

Report Overview:

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Water (3)

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UK Zero Carbon Goal Receives Hammer Blow	08/07/2015	Boston.com	MA
Effective response to climate change	08/07/2015	Fletcher's Daily Democrat Online	NH
Letter: Will Gov. Charlie Baker convert GOP to clean energy?	08/07/2015	Herald News Online, The	MA
The Great Victorian Climate Debate	08/07/2015	New York Times Online	NY
An Atomic Legacy Splits Peace Activists and Grateful Locals	08/07/2015	New York Times, The	NY
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Brownfields / Superfund / Other Cleanups (8)

Wastewater from Colorado mine flows toward New Mexico, Utah	08/08/2015	Advocate Online, The	CT
EPA pollutes Colo. river during mine cleanup	08/08/2015	USA Today Online	VA
EPA: No word yet on health risk from Colorado mine spill	08/07/2015	Associated Press (AP)	NY
EPA confirms Colorado mine spill contains heavy metals	08/07/2015	Associated Press Online	NY
EPA confirms Colorado mine spill contains heavy metals	08/07/2015	Boston Herald Online	MA
New Mexico blasts EPA for late notice on Colorado mine spill	08/07/2015	Boston Herald Online	MA
Colorado: Heavy Metals Spill Into River	08/07/2015	New York Times Online	NY
Wastewater Spill in Colorado Turns a River Yellow	08/07/2015	New York Times, The	NY

Climate Change (4)

Governor's bill takes shine to more solar power	08/08/2015	Boston Herald Online	MA
Obama: Wildfires worsened by climate change	08/07/2015	Advocate Online, The	CT
How to Save a Sinking Coast? Katrina Created a Laboratory	08/07/2015	New York Times, The	NY
'Green Politics' poster exhibit displayed at Dudley library	08/07/2015	Telegram & Gazette Online	MA

Energy Issues (2)

MEA Proudly Announces the 2015 Environmental Learning Summit	08/07/2015	Advocate Online, The	CT
Smart Cities Market Forecast and Analysis 2014-2020 - The Market is Estimated to Reach \$595.4 Billion by 2016	08/07/2015	Boston.com	MA

Research and Development (3)

Survey of western Lake Erie planned to assess fish status	08/07/2015	Associated Press (AP)	NY
Tide turns for bay scallops, restoration continues in bay	08/07/2015	Associated Press (AP)	NY
URI, RISD among New England colleges	08/07/2015	Providence	RI

awarded \$6 million to study dams

Journal Online,
The

Toxics (1)

Letter: A healthy community is an engaged community

08/07/2015 Herald News
Online, The

MA

Trash / Recycling / Solid Waste (2)

Farmington's Union School Families Pick Up Trash Along River

08/07/2015 Hartford Courant
Online

CT

Fall River's fees for trash pickup not uncommon among nearby towns, similar cities

08/07/2015 Herald News
Online, The

MA

Water (3)

Senator Murphy pushing for \$325m in Fed clean water money for LIS

08/07/2015 Greenwich Time
Online

CT

Stormwater fee helps make Fall River's water-sewer costs higher than nearby cities

08/07/2015 Herald News
Online, The

MA

DES: Acid rain declining, but lakes and ponds lag

08/07/2015 New Hampshire
Union Leader
Online

NH

Other (6)

Clean Power Plan Helps Number Coal's Days

08/08/2015 Hartford Courant
Online

CT

Gov. Baker: Invest in homegrown clean energy and jobs, not foreign hydro power

08/08/2015 615m Online

MA

Green Chimneys awarded \$3,500 by People's United Community Foundation

08/07/2015 Advocate Online,
The

CT

40 Million for Protecting the Environment? Indeed Just Airwheel Intelligent razor scooters electric Are Also OK!

08/07/2015 Boston.com

MA

Bacteria levels drop at Wollaston Beach, Lighthouse Beach in Scituate

08/07/2015 Enterprise -
Online, The

MA

EPA Floats Plan To Preclude Some Adverse Air Rulings From National Effect

08/07/2015 Inside EPA

VA

News Headline: Gov. Baker files bill to encourage expansion of solar power - The Boston Globe |

Outlet Full Name: Boston Globe Online

News Text: ...cost of the wires and poles they are using to send power back to the grid. Renewable energy activists said they were encouraged by...

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News Headline: UK Zero Carbon Goal Receives Hammer Blow |

Outlet Full Name: Boston.com

News Text: ...that housing developments less than 10 units would be exempt from energy efficiency standards but everything else would need to...

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News Headline: Effective response to climate change |

Outlet Full Name: Foster's Daily Democrat Online

News Text: ...Obama announced the adoption of broad new standards limiting carbon emissions from power plants. These rules are necessary given Congress'...

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News Headline: Letter: Will Gov. Charlie Baker convert GOP to clean energy? |

Outlet Full Name: Herald News Online, The

News Text: ...solar power (and offshore wind) to avoid the worst impacts of human-caused climate change — a reality that too many members of...

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News Headline: The Great Victorian Climate Debate | ..

Outlet Full Name: New York Times Online

News Text: ...Science & Society Picture Library, via Getty Images THE history of today's climate change debate may have begun on Feb. 7, 1861....

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News Headline: An Atomic Legacy Splits Peace Activists and Grateful Locals |

Outlet Full Name: New York Times, The

News Text: LOS ALAMOS, N.M. -- Ellie Voutselas, 78, pulled from a cardboard box the sacks she had fashioned into ponchos, slicing holes in the burlap for the head and arms. Cayla Turain, 22, grabbed hers, smudged ashes on her face, and joined a silent march for peace.

On Aug. 6, 1945, a B-29 bomber dropped an atomic bomb over Hiroshima, Japan, incinerating tens of thousands on the ground. Seventy years later, Ms. Voutselas, Ms. Turain and about 80 others marched toward the secured entrance to the Los Alamos National Laboratory, where the bombs that ravaged Hiroshima and, three days later, Nagasaki, had been conceived.

"My generation might be the one that's going to have to grapple with the question, to nuke or not to nuke?" Ms. Turain, a graduate student from Fort Collins, Colo., said Thursday. "I came here looking for answers."

From a stage at the Ashley Pond Park, the Rev. John Dear, the Catholic priest who organized the protest and a self-described "nonviolent troublemaker" -- he says he has been arrested 75 times in acts of civil disobedience against war and was once convicted of striking an F-15E fighter-bomber with a hammer inside a military base -- offered his answers.

"All roads lead to Los Alamos," Father Dear said. "This is the place that taught us that we can destroy one another, destroy the world, and it's really important for us to understand how our history feeds our violence."

While residents here seemed to understand, and tolerate, the protest, none of them joined. Some watched with indifferent curiosity, ignoring the message even as it condemned the laboratory that is their town's lifeblood -- and where research today reaches far beyond nuclear weapons, into fields like climate change, geothermal energies and cancer treatment.

Near the protesters sat Margie Lane, 89, who vividly recalled the news of the bombings and "that feeling," she said, "that the world was no longer safe."

Her perspective on Los Alamos and its laboratory was decidedly benign. Mrs. Lane has lived here for 38 years and her husband, now dead, worked as a mechanical engineer at the lab, a job that paid the bills and gave him purpose. "He built the gadgets the scientists conceived," she said.

Jeff Casados, 65, a lifelong resident, said his father was one of the lab's early scientists, doing some type of classified work, and he worked there too, on an accelerator of subatomic particles used in certain forms of cancer therapy. He said it was easy to condemn the lab when all one knows about it is its "crazy history."

"We're not all pro-nukes and pro-bombs," said Mr. Casados, who retired two years

ago and had come to observe the protest. "I worked to save lives, and I'm very proud of that."

These days, the laboratory is a place of contrasts, much like its hometown. Perched on a plateau on the Jemez Mountains, Los Alamos offers stunning panoramas -- mountains chiseled by volcanic eruptions on one side, hillsides speckled with pine trees on the other, the ground still scarred by wildfires that have come close to burning the town. With its strong public school system, an overwhelming number of residents with doctoral degrees and one of the nation's highest concentration of millionaires, Los Alamos is rich and highly educated, an anomaly in the state.

New Mexico, one of the poorest states in the country, is heavily reliant on its military bases and government research centers. Los Alamos and the Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque are among the top 10 employers in the state, which received \$27.5 billion in federal money in 2013, according to a recent report by the Pew Charitable Trusts. About a quarter of the money paid for contracts, many of them for defense work developed at the labs.

But the relationship has come at a price. For years, lab workers used bunkers and canyons around Los Alamos as dumping grounds for radioactive materials -- and trace amounts are still embedded in rocks and soil despite millions of dollars in cleanups.

Last year, plutonium waste leaked from a drum stored at the laboratory. In April, the federal Energy Department agreed to spend \$73 million to improve transportation of nuclear waste from Los Alamos to the nation's only permanent underground repository for such materials, in southeastern New Mexico, where a leak exposed 17 employees to radiation.

In announcing the agreement, Gov. Susana Martinez described Los Alamos and the repository known as the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant as "critical assets to our nation's security, our state's economy, and the communities in which they operate."

For the protesters, though, they are reminders of the past and worrisome signs of what the future may hold.

"Why would they do this?" Kaitlyn Altizer, 12, asked her parents, Mary and Don Heath, pastors at Trinity Christian Church in Edmond, Okla., after she learned about the bombs for the first time. The family was in New Mexico for a four-day peace conference, which begins and ends with protests here, to mark the dropping of the bombs over Japan.

Thursday's march led with banner that read, "1 Hiroshima = 100 Auschwitz." The group walked west on Trinity Drive, named after the bombs' test site, about 200 miles south of Los Alamos; crossed Oppenheimer Drive, named after J. Robert Oppenheimer, the scientist who led the bomb's development; and passed the Richard

P. Feynman Center for Innovation, which honors a Nobel Prize-winning theoretical physicist who worked on the Manhattan Project, the atomic bombs' classified program.

The protesters paused for 15 minutes of silence along the walk. A man sat in a lotus position under the shade of a tree, his eyes closed in meditation.

Back at the park, they spread out on the lawn to hear the Rev. James Lawson, the mastermind of lunch-counter sit-ins in Nashville in 1960 and other demonstrations during the Civil Rights era. (The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a close friend, described him as "the leading theorist and strategist of nonviolence in the world.")

Mr. Lawson was 17 when the bombs fell in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, a rising high school senior in Massillon, Ohio, and a member of the speech and debate team, whose question that year was, "Does the atomic bomb make mass armies obsolete?"

Riding to Los Alamos with Father Dear, who has been nominated multiple times for the Nobel Peace Prize, Mr. Lawson said, "Today's weapons of mass destruction are nothing but the evolution of our understanding of violence."

"What do you mean by that?" Father Dear asked.

Mr. Lawson answered, "The bomb has given the human race the power to annihilate itself." Evoking last year's killings of Tamir Rice, 12, in Cleveland and Michael Brown, 18, in Ferguson, Mo., he added, "The police officer who shoots an unarmed boy or sees a young man as a demon rushing at him represents the same lost regard for human life we learned with the bomb."

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News Headline: Aiming to boost solar industry, Gov. Charlie Baker proposes bill raising 'net metering' cap |

Outlet Full Name: Republican Online

News Text: ...Baker on Friday proposed easing a restriction on solar energy that some renewable energy industry advocates say is blocking projects...

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News Headline: State sets limits on paint, dust emissions at Fairhaven Shipyard | ..

Outlet Full Name: SouthCoastToday.com

News Text: ...— The state has ordered Fairhaven Shipyard to limit paint and dust emissions after concerns from neighbors that noise and particulate...

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News Headline: Wastewater from Colorado mine flows toward New Mexico, Utah |

Outlet Full Name: Advocate Online, The

News Text: ...officials said Friday the spill contains heavy metals including lead and arsenic, but it was too early to know whether they posed a health...

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News Headline: EPA pollutes Colo. river during mine cleanup |

Outlet Full Name: USA Today Online

News Text: 9:07 p.m. EDT August 7, 2015 The Environmental Protection Agency took responsibility Friday for inadvertently polluting a...

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News Headline: EPA: No word yet on health risk from Colorado mine spill |

Outlet Full Name: Associated Press (AP)

News Text: DENVER (AP) - The mustard-colored muck that spilled into a river from a shuttered Colorado gold mine contains heavy metals including lead and arsenic, but it's too early to know whether they pose a health risk, federal environmental officials said Friday.

No health hazard has been detected but the tests were still being analyzed, said Joan Card, an adviser to Environmental Protection Agency Regional Director Shaun McGrath.

The spill also contained cadmium, aluminum, copper and calcium, the EPA said. The concentrations were not yet known.

At least two of the heavy metals can be lethal for humans in long-term exposure. Arsenic at high levels can cause blindness, paralysis and cancer. Lead poisoning can create muscle and vision problems for adults, harm development in fetuses and lead to kidney disease, developmental problems and sometimes death in children, the agency said.

The sludge is creeping toward communities in northern New Mexico, where tests also were being done. But the EPA says no information has been released yet.

An EPA-supervised cleanup crew accidentally unleashed 1 million gallons of the wastewater from the mine on Wednesday, and it flowed into the Animas river through a tributary. The EPA warned people to stay out of the river, which is popular with boaters and anglers, and to keep domestic animals from drinking from it.

No drinking-water contamination was reported. At least seven water utilities shut down their intake valves ahead of the plume to keep it out of their systems. Farmers also closed the gates on their irrigation ditches to protect their crops.

Many in southwest Colorado regarded the EPA's initial response to the spill as too slow and too small, Colorado's lawmakers in Washington noted in a letter Friday to EPA administrator Gina McCarthy.

The spill threatens not only public health but the area's agriculture and tourism, U.S. Sens. Michael Bennet, a Democrat, and Cory Gardner, a Republican, wrote, along with Republican U.S. Rep. Scott Tipton, whose district includes the area of the spill.

"We urge the EPA to take full responsibility for this accident," the Colorado lawmakers wrote. That includes with compensation to the communities hit by the yellow-orange surge of water, they said.

Colorado officials put 108 young trout in cages in the river to test the effects, and one died within the first 24 hours. It was too soon to draw any conclusions, Colorado Parks and Wildlife spokesman Joe Lewandowski said.

Water was still spilling from the mine Friday but officials didn't know how fast. Crews were building containment ponds to catch it.

Card said the EPA has no way to get the discolored water out of the river and that it will eventually dissipate. It wasn't clear when that will happen.

Some of the heavy metals likely are settling to the bottom of the river or on beaches, Card said. Tests will be done to see if cleanup work should be done, said Martin Hestmark, an ecosystem remediation and protection administrator for the EPA.

New Mexico officials were angry they were not told of the spill until Thursday, nearly a day after it occurred.

"New Mexico deserves better," state Environment Secretary Ryan Flynn said.

McGrath apologized for the EPA's response and for previously sounding "cavalier" about the concerns for public health and the environment.

"Our initial response to it was not appropriate in that we did not understand the full extent of what we were looking at here," he said.

Few details have been released about the spill, except that the cleanup crew of EPA employees and contractors accidentally breached a debris dam that had formed inside the mine. The crew was trying to enter the mine to pump out and treat the water, EPA spokeswoman Lisa McClain-Vanderpool said.

The mine has been inactive since 1923.

The waste spilled into Cement Creek, which flows into the Animas River north of the historic mining town of Silverton in Colorado's San Juan Mountains.

The river is a recreational destination and served as the backdrop for parts of the movie "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid." Passengers on the Durango and Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad snap thousands of photos of the waterway as the steam-powered trains chug up the narrow canyon beside it.

"It's such a shame, it's such a beautiful river," said Jeff McCoy, who was watching from the riverbank in Durango, where he was on a fishing trip with his son.

"We usually come out here in the beautiful weather to fish, but no fishing today," said McCoy, who lives in Phoenix.

The plume was expected to reach the northern New Mexico cities of Aztec and Farmington by Friday evening. After the Animas joins the San Juan River in New Mexico, the remnants of the spill would then go into Utah, eventually reaching Lake Powell and the Colorado River.

Officials said the contamination would likely settle into sediment in Lake Powell. Glen Canyon National Recreation Area officials said visitors will be warned starting Monday to avoid drinking, swimming or boating on affected stretches of the lake and river until further notice.

The river had begun to clear up in Silverton, McClain-Vanderpool said. Officials were releasing extra water from at least one reservoir to help dilute the pollution.

Associated Press writers Yara Bishara in Phoenix, Ellen Knickmeyer in San Francisco, Brady McCombs in Salt Lake City, Michelle Price in Salt Lake City and Nicholas Riccardi in Denver contributed to this report.

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News Headline: EPA confirms Colorado mine spill contains heavy metals |

Outlet Full Name: Associated Press Online

News Text: ...mine and surged into a river contains heavy metals including lead and arsenic, federal environmental officials confirmed Friday, but...

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News Headline: EPA confirms Colorado mine spill contains heavy metals | .

Outlet Full Name: Boston Herald Online

News Text: ...the Animas River near Durango, Colo., Thursday, Aug. 6, 2015. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency said that a cleanup...

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News Headline: New Mexico blasts EPA for late notice on Colorado mine spill | .

Outlet Full Name: Boston Herald Online

News Text: DENVER — Officials in New Mexico are blasting the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for not informing them soon enough about a...

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News Headline: Colorado: Heavy Metals Spill Into River | .

Outlet Full Name: New York Times Online

News Text: Heavy metals including lead and arsenic are in mustard-colored muck that E.P.A. and contractor crews accidentally unleashed from a Colorado...

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News Headline: Wastewater Spill in Colorado Turns a River Yellow | .

Outlet Full Name: New York Times, The

News Text: Environmental officials in Colorado are working to clean up one million gallons of wastewater containing heavy metals that spilled from an abandoned mine, turning an adjoining river a murky, mustard shade of yellow.

The Environmental Protection Agency caused the spill on Wednesday while it was investigating a leak at the Gold King Mine. The wastewater flowed into Cement Creek, a tributary of the Animas River in southwestern Colorado, and snaked through the river toward New Mexico.

E.P.A. officials confirmed the leak contained heavy metals, including lead and arsenic, but said it was too early to know whether there was a health risk to humans or animals. The river was closed for recreational and other uses, but officials said water sources should be safe.

"The orange color is alarming to people, but that is not an indication in any way of a health risk," said Joan Card, an official with Region 8 of the E.P.A. Testing is ongoing, she said.

Martin Hestmark, an assistant regional administrator with the agency, estimated that the wastewater was flowing at about a few hundred gallons per minute. The E.P.A. is diverting the wastewater to treatment ponds it is building.

The discoloration made for striking photographs.

Rayna Willhite, of Aztec, holds a bottle of water collected from the Animas River that contains mine waste. pic.twitter.com/fTip9LGsDu -- jerry mcbride (@jerryphotog) August 6, 2015

An irrigation ditch flows clean water into the Animas River south of Hermosa. pic.twitter.com/f8Dh9xHSRD -- jerry mcbride (@jerryphotog) August 6, 2015

During a community meeting on Friday, Dave Ostrander, the E.P.A.'s director of emergency preparedness for Region 8, apologized on behalf of the agency, according to The Denver Post.

"We are very sorry for what happened," Mr. Ostrander said. "This is a huge tragedy. It's hard being on the other side of this. Typically we respond to emergencies, we don't cause them."

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News Headline: Governor's bill takes shine to more solar power |

Outlet Full Name: Boston Herald Online

News Text: ...to diversifying the commonwealth's energy portfolio, reducing our carbon footprint and protecting ratepayers," Baker said in a...

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News Headline: Obama: Wildfires worsened by climate change |

Outlet Full Name: Advocate Online, The

News Text: ...says wildfires in the western U.S. are getting worse in large part due to

climate change. Obama says there's been a consistent...

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News Headline: How to Save a Sinking Coast? Katrina Created a Laboratory |

Outlet Full Name: New York Times, The

News Text: NEW ORLEANS -- Ten years ago, the neighborhood hard by the 17th Street canal in this city was water-blasted. The surges from Hurricane Katrina swept into the canal, broke through its flood walls and forced homes off their foundations. Much of New Orleans remained steeped in brackish filth for weeks until the sodden city could be drained.

In the aftermath, Congress approved \$14 billion for a 350-mile ring of protection around the city with bigger and stronger levees, gigantic gates that can be closed against storms, and a spectacular two-mile "Great Wall of Lake Borgne" that can seal off the canal that devastated the city's Lower Ninth Ward when its flood walls fail. More work is underway, including pump stations that will keep the city's three main drainage canals from being overwhelmed again during storms.

The elaborate system of walls, pumps and gates is still not everything the Crescent City needs; some flooding of streets in heavy storms will always be a fact of life. But it goes a long way to fulfilling a promise by federal and state officials that the kind of widespread destruction from Hurricane Katrina, one of the worst disasters in United States history, will not happen again.

And it is only the start. As the federal government built a protective ring around New Orleans, state officials devised a plan to take care of other vulnerable areas in the state as part of a 50-year, \$50 billion master plan. It combines structures such as levees with "green infrastructure," like restored wetlands and bulked-up barrier islands to soften the punch of storms while providing havens for wildlife.

The lessons from Hurricane Katrina, laid out in concrete, steel, earth, marsh, and in the ambitious master plan, are being watched with interest from New York to Florida and the Texas Coast. People within sight of any coast want a wall to call their own.

To the northeast, New York and New Jersey are looking at multibillion-dollar proposals to limit the damage that could be caused by the next Hurricane Sandy. To the west, Galveston, Tex., wants an "Ike Dike," a great wall to blunt storms like Hurricane Ike in 2008.

Officials also have come from around the world by the planeload to see what is rising here.

Ricky Boyett, a spokesman for the New Orleans district for the Army Corps of

Engineers, said that in 2010, during the corps' construction boom on the system, he and his colleagues conducted more than 400 tours for congressional delegations and officials from two dozen nations, including Bangladesh, the Czech Republic and the Netherlands, not to mention visiting conventioners. After that, he said, "we quit counting."

René Poché, another corps spokesman, said that he had led so many tours that he sometimes felt like a guide at Disneyland. "I have the pith hat," he joked. "I have my little jungle vest."

The tour buses would take visitors to see such engineering feats as the Lake Bogne wall and the gargantuan pump station and gates at the Harvey Canal on the West Bank, and end up at the 17th Street canal -- then, as often as not, they would stop for lunch at Deanie's Seafood in the nearby Bucktown neighborhood for shrimp, crawfish and spicy boiled potatoes.

These visitors see in Louisiana a glimpse of their own future, as climate change brings rising seas and heavy weather to coastal communities. And because Louisiana is dealing with the additional challenge of sinking land, the vanishing boot of the state has become a laboratory with tensions over the cost and pace of the work, and uncomfortable questions about whether the endeavor is an exercise in futility -- for dealing with the effects of a warming world.

"We are at the forefront of addressing the issues caused by climate change," said Chip Kline, the state's top coastal official.

Restoring the Wetlands

In the last 80 years, the state has lost 1,900 square miles of its coastal wetlands, a land mass roughly the size of Delaware. That has happened in large part because of the levees along the Mississippi, which cut off the Delta from its replenishing sediment, and because oil and gas operations cut in pipelines and channels for navigation that allowed saltwater to creep in and kill off the delicate wetlands.

This history of loss has been repeated so often that just about everybody here can recite the statistics by heart.

"People know about the number of football fields we lose every hour," Mr. Kline said (the answer: one).

But the losses have overshadowed the steps being taken to restore the land.

The state has more than 150 projects from its master plan underway or complete. More than \$11 billion in state and federal funds has been spent on hurricane risk reduction, with more than \$2 billion earmarked for ecosystem restoration.

The state is building up eroding barrier islands and headlands, restoring their beaches, dunes and marshes. It is bringing land back to wetland areas that had degraded to open water.

Each project is its own puzzle: The Caminada headland is receiving sand brought in by barge and pipeline from a rich, sandy shoal 30 miles out in the Gulf of Mexico. The headland shields the bustling shipping industry at nearby Port Fourchon and Highway 1, a vital link and hurricane evacuation route for communities like Grand Isle.

Over at Bayou Dupont, hundreds of acres of land, already sprouting fields of grass, have risen in recent months from open water because of a 13-mile pipeline that carries dredged sand from the bottom of the Mississippi.

Restoration efforts like these provide protection from the power of hurricanes, said Reggie Dupre, a former state legislator who is the executive director of the Terrebonne Levee & Conservation District.

"Anything you put between the Gulf of Mexico and where you live takes away some of that energy," he said.

Dredging can build land quickly, but it is expensive. And because the forces that are eating away at Louisiana are not going away, the work will have to be repeated. State officials say they would like to see a system that replenishes itself, and that will involve reversing, even by a little, one of the greatest engineering accomplishments in American history.

After Congress ordered the Corps of Engineers to wall off the Mississippi after the disastrous floods of 1927, the region became safer to live in. But those levees cut off the supply of sand and silt that built the land and kept it above water. Now Louisiana wants its dirt back, flowing through cuts in the river bank known as diversions.

"When people talk about diversion, they think we're blowing a hole in the levee," said David Muth, the head of the Gulf Restoration Program for the National Wildlife Federation.

Davis Pond, a freshwater diversion 15 miles upriver from New Orleans, built by the Corps and the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, shows what such a project can do. The concrete and steel structure allows water, nutrients and suspended sediment to flow out into nearby marshes and estuaries. Future diversions -- four planned and two under evaluation -- will channel heavier sand to build land more quickly.

On a recent fine summer morning, engines at the Davis pond diversion whined to life and opened the gates separating the river from the 9,300-acre pond. Soon, 5,000 cubic feet of water per second coursed through a culvert and into the open water,

where dozens of alligators congregated to feast on a breakfast of marine life flowing out of the chute.

In the pond, accumulating silt and the flow of freshwater have helped bring back aquatic vegetation and toughened the floating marshes rich in waving grasses and buttonbush, that teem with white ibis, egrets and herons.

Diversions are controversial with some fishermen and oystermen, who say that sending freshwater into areas like Barataria Bay will disrupt their livelihood. Environmental groups favor diversions, however, and officials insist that they are the fix for a sinking state.

"The Mississippi River is the lifeline for the crisis we face in coastal Louisiana," Mr. Kline said. "We can't just keep throwing money at the problem, dredging and dredging and dredging." Instead, he added, "we just let the river do the work."

Lagging Outside New Orleans

Even with all that's been done since Hurricane Katrina to build a protection system around New Orleans, many residents and officials elsewhere in the state worry about the pace of projects that involve the corps.

Mr. Kline praised the corps for the "phenomenal" speed and strength of the work around New Orleans. But, he said, "the same sense of urgency needs to be taking place elsewhere along coastal Louisiana."

The corps is the essential partner for large-scale projects, but it moves at a frustratingly slow pace, he said, adding: "At every turn in the game, it's either study or wait. We don't have time to study anymore."

In an interview earlier this year, Lt. Gen. Thomas P. Bostick, commanding general of the corps, noted that the agency was often held back by the congressional process of authorization and appropriation, which can lead to conflicting signals of a mandate to act but no money for building.

While the money for New Orleans was given by Washington upfront, Congress normally pays in fits and starts, he said; the delays drive up costs and levels of frustration.

Without a tragedy like Hurricane Katrina to push the nation into decisive action, projects can straggle. "Sadly, that's why we do so well with disasters," he said. "That becomes the priority."

Such arguments do not appease locals. During a helicopter tour high above the \$49 million Bubba Dove floodgate near the town of Dulac, Mr. Dupre, the Terrebonne parish official, pointed out work on the "Morganza-to-the-Gulf" levee system.

This was first planned as a nearly 100-mile long, federally funded levee project, but residents tired of waiting as cost estimates for the project escalated into the billions of dollars.

Now earthen walls are being piled up by excavation equipment across the watery landscape. The wall is not as brawny as the eventual federal system will be, but the state and local authorities have spent \$366 million to kick-start interim construction, with money raised in part through taxes that local residents voted to pay.

Windell Curole, general manager of the South Lafourche Levee District, noted that most of the voters in the area were conservative and Republican, and not generally friendly toward the idea of new taxes.

"Over here, it's not a partisan issue," he said. "It's a matter of survival."

A High, Necessary Cost

The \$50 billion price tag on the master plan will require many sources of funding. Federal and state appropriations, as well as private funds, will be part of the mix, of course, but the state will also receive at least \$6.8 billion from the recently announced \$18.7 billion civil settlement over the Deepwater Horizon oil spill between BP, the federal government, five Gulf states and hundreds of local governments.

The state is also in line to receive billions in offshore oil revenue through the federal Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act. The \$145 million reconstruction of the Caminada headland is coming out of the \$2.5 billion in penalties paid by BP and Transocean as part of the criminal settlement in the Deepwater Horizon disaster. A local levee board has sought further funding by suing oil and gas companies over the coastal damage caused by their operations, but state officials oppose the suit.

State officials express confidence that the \$50 billion will come together over time. Mr. Kline refers to the master plan as "a marathon, not a sprint," and said that his office could manage about a billion dollars a year in projects, with money coming in as the projects move along.

Restoring the coast will be expensive, but inaction would be even costlier, said Mark S. Davis of Tulane University Law School. He said that the nation paid one way or another, and the more than \$100 billion in relief is simply replacing what Hurricane Katrina broke -- "You didn't buy a future with that money."

Yet all that is planned still might not be enough, said Oliver Houck, an environmental law expert at Tulane University Law School. "There is no one that says that \$50 billion is going to get us anything but a hold in the status quo," he said, adding that moving citizens away from the riskiest areas is essential.

Suggestions to retreat go against the grain in Louisiana, where people are tied to their home in a visceral way that can seem peculiar to a more rootless nation. But America benefits from this rich coast, local officials argue, producing energy for its homes and industries, as well as seafood for its tables.

The fact that the newly built land will subside and erode, and that seas will rise and severe storms will do their worst, is no argument against moving forward, said Garret Graves, a Republican member of Congress from Louisiana who formerly led the coastal authority. "You don't not build a road because you're going to have to maintain it," he added.

Standing on the fresh ground in Bayou Dupont, Chuck Perrodin, a spokesman for the coastal authority, took up the question of what will happen when the next hurricane hits. His blunt prediction: "What it's going to do is mess this up."

Even so, the ambitious projects, which carry ambitious price tags, are worth it to change the calculus, even a little bit, of what can seem like a Sisyphean task.

"As long as we're taking two or three steps forward for every step back, we will have a net gain," he said. "It used to be we'd take one step forward and two steps back. We're turning that around."

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News Headline: 'Green Politics' poster exhibit displayed at Dudley library | ..

Outlet Full Name: Telegram & Gazette Online

News Text: ...depicts the inked-paper messages for environmental issues, such as renewable energy, global warming, fracking and...

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News Headline: MEA Proudly Announces the 2015 Environmental Learning Summit | ..

Outlet Full Name: Advocate Online, The

News Text: MEA's Environmental Learning Summit (September 15-17, 2015 in Colorado Springs, CO) provides industry-expert presentations and peer-to-peer...

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News Headline: Smart Cities Market Forecast and Analysis 2014-2020 - The

Market is Estimated to Reach \$595.4 Billion by 2016 |

Outlet Full Name: Boston.com

News Text: ...(Smart Transportation, Smart Building, Smart Energy, Smart ICT, Energy and Environment); Geography (Americas, Europe, APAC)" report to...

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News Headline: Survey of western Lake Erie planned to assess fish status |

Outlet Full Name: Associated Press (AP)

News Text: MONROE, Mich. (AP) - Michigan scientists will conduct a trawl survey to assess fish populations of western Lake Erie.

The Department of Natural Resources says the operation will run this Monday through Friday.

Area research manager Todd Wills says survey data will help measure the status of prey fish and abundance of young walleye and yellow perch.

It also will support efforts to monitor for invasive species.

A trawl looks like a large, mesh sock. It will be towed on the lake bottom behind the research vessel Channel Cat.

A number of sites will be sampled, from the mouth of the Detroit River to the Turtle Island area along the Michigan-Ohio border.

The trawl is towed for five to 10 minutes, then hauled aboard the vessel. The catch is sorted, identified and measured.

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News Headline: Tide turns for bay scallops, restoration continues in bay |

Outlet Full Name: Associated Press (AP)

News Text: FORT MYERS, Fla. (AP) - Standing in the chest-deep water of Tarpon Bay recently, Eric Milbrandt handed a cage full of bay scallops to Sarah Bridenbaugh aboard a Carolina Skiff.

Milbrandt, director of the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation Marine Laboratory, and research assistant Bridenbaugh weren't harvesting the tasty mollusks (harvesting bay scallops south of the Pasco-Hernando county line is illegal).

Instead, the caged scallops would be cleaned, counted and measured by Bridenbaugh and interns Krystal Silas, Emily Anderson and Chrissy McCrimmon for an ongoing scallop restoration project.

"Old-timers talk about collecting buckets of scallops in the 1950s and '60s," Milbrant said. "What we're trying to do is re-establish a local population of scallops. We'd like to see a population that can sustain a recreational harvest, but we're quite a long way from that."

Bay scallops used to be so abundant in Pine Island Sound that they supported thriving commercial and recreational fisheries.

In the mid-1960s, however, the area's scallop population crashed; many people blamed the Sanibel Causeway, which was built in 1963 - the theory is that the causeway islands blocked the flow of the Caloosahatchee River, so fresh water backed up into the estuary and killed the scallops, which die when the salinity drops below 20 parts per thousand.

That theory doesn't tell the whole story, considering the fact that scallop populations collapsed at the same time all along Florida's Gulf Coast.

"There is a combination of things," said scallop expert Steve Geiger of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. "Populations crashed south of Suwannee, and the crash wasn't equal in all places. We can postulate that it was a change in water quality, loss of habitat - there was a lot of dredge and fill and seagrass loss. There was also a larger human population and more harvest."

Southwest Florida had an additional cause: Red tide kills bay scallops, and the traditional red tide hot spot is from Sarasota County to Collier County.

"There are a lot of stressors, a lot of things going on," Geiger said. "Why they're not recovering is a harder question."

Scallop populations remain healthy enough in north Florida to allow a recreational harvest from the Pasco-Hernando county line to the west bank of the Mexico City Beach canal in Bay County; Milbrandt said numerous factors might be responsible for scallop populations in that area, including lack of development.

Several organizations are working to help scallops recover in Southwest Florida, including Mote Marine Laboratory, Sarasota Bay Watch and the Charlotte County Extension Service.

SCCF's recovery effort consists of placing juvenile scallops in cages in Tarpon Bay, cleaning and measuring them weekly until they spawn in the summer.

Most scallop larvae settle near where they were spawned, but some travel on tides

through passes into the Gulf; then they ride currents and tides and settle in other estuaries.

For the first few years of the restoration effort, SCCF got their juvenile scallops from FWC, which were collected in Tampa Bay.

"We'd meet the FWC guys at I-75 and Jones Loop Road with a cooler and a couple of bubblers," Milbrandt said. "We'd get 300 to 400 scallops, bring them back and put them in cages.

"Last year, a local bait-shrimper called and said, 'Hey, I'm catching a lot of dime-size scallops. Do you want them?'"

Since then, SCCF has been using local scallops caught by the shrimper.

Packed together in cages, the scallops become more encrusted with organisms (this is known as fouling) than in the wild, so an important part of the project is scraping fouling organisms off with the edge of a ponderous ark clam shell.

"The scallops get so fouled that they can't open," Milbrandt said. "They're filter feeders, and if they can't open, they can't feed. We use the edge of a shell instead of an oyster knife because it's softer; a knife could break the scallop's shell."

To assess the abundance of a local scallop population, researchers have created four classifications: sustainable, more than 1 scallop per square meter; stable, 0.1 to 1 scallop per square meter; vulnerable, .01 to 0.1 scallop per square meter; collapsed, 0 to .01 scallop per square meter.

Scallop populations have fluctuated in Southwest Florida's restoration areas; some populations go back and forth from stable to vulnerable.

But the Pine Island Sound population goes back and forth from stable to collapsed.

"It's possible that something has changed in Florida Bay, which provides a source of larvae for Pine Island Sound," Geiger said. "Or maybe there's some stressor we haven't identified. Whatever the reason, whenever the population gets to stable, it falls back to vulnerable. It does go to collapsed sometimes, but it doesn't stay there."

For the most part, Geiger is excited about Southwest Florida's bay scallops.

"I'm concerned that we're not to a level where they're harvestable," he said. "But from a species standpoint, I'm happy. They're not thriving. They're stumbling along, and I have to believe that all these efforts by SCCF, Mote and Charlotte County are having a positive effect."

Like all bay scallops, SCCF's caged scallops die after spawning.

In April, SCCF had 270 juvenile scallops in two cages; through spring and early summer, the death rate was four to five a week, and as the scallops spawned, they died at a rate of 20 a week.

This week, the researchers counted the empty shells of 40 scallops, leaving 156 live scallops in the cages.

"You hate to see them go," Anderson said. "But that's what they do."

Information from: The (Fort Myers, Fla.) News-Press, <http://www.news-press.com>

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News Headline: URI, RISD among New England colleges awarded \$6 million to study dams | .

Outlet Full Name: Providence Journal Online, The

News Text: ...an email. The project expands the partnership and scope of the New England Sustainability Consortium (NEST), which began in 2013 with...

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News Headline: Letter: A healthy community is an engaged community | .

Outlet Full Name: Herald News Online, The

News Text: ...community which includes plenty of affordable housing, safe community environment, employment and educational opportunity for all, clean...

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News Headline: Farmington's Union School Families Pick Up Trash Along River | .

Outlet Full Name: Hartford Courant Online

News Text: ...clean and to show my kids that we have to do our part to take care of our environment if we want to continue to enjoy it." Lister said the...

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News Headline: Fall River's fees for trash pickup not uncommon among nearby

towns, similar cities |

Outlet Full Name: Herald News Online, The

News Text: ...Trashmore.In 2005, with no solid waste enterprise fund in existence and no recycling, Pacheco said, the city budgeted \$2.3 million for...

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News Headline: Senator Murphy pushing for \$325m in Fed clean water money for LIS |

Outlet Full Name: Greenwich Time Online

News Text: ...director of Save the Sound, a bi-state program of Connecticut Fund for the Environment. Johnson was at Short Beach on Friday to meet with...

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News Headline: Stormwater fee helps make Fall River's water-sewer costs higher than nearby cities | ..

Outlet Full Name: Herald News Online, The

News Text: ...\$889 in Brockton. But that Fall River figure does not include a special stormwater fee the city charges to defray debt costs on its \$185...

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News Headline: DES: Acid rain declining, but lakes and ponds lag |

Outlet Full Name: New Hampshire Union Leader Online

News Text: ...the watershed bureau administrator with DES, first started working at New Hampshire Department of Environmental...

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News Headline: Clean Power Plan Helps Number Coal's Days | .

Outlet Full Name: Hartford Courant Online

News Text: ...been working for the past 25 years to reduce the type of greenhouse gas emissions that the new plan says must be cut. Our Global...

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News Headline: Gov. Baker: Invest in homegrown clean energy and jobs, not foreign hydro power |

Outlet Full Name: Sun Online

News Text: ...in an effort to stabilize electricity rates and meet the Commonwealth's Global Warming Solutions Act (GWSA) goals. Moving away...

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News Headline: Green Chimneys awarded \$3,500 by People's United Community Foundation |

Outlet Full Name: Advocate Online, The

News Text: ...school advocacy. "The Outranch Center provides a supportive and structured environment that encourages these young people to improve their...

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News Headline: 40 Million for Protecting the Environment? Indeed Just Airwheel Intelligent razor scooters electric Are Also OK! |

Outlet Full Name: Boston.com

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News Headline: Bacteria levels drop at Wollaston Beach, Lighthouse Beach in Scituate |

Outlet Full Name: Enterprise - Online, The

News Text: ...2003. All other salt-water beaches from Quincy to Plymouth are open. See water quality test results for each community and for Cape...

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News Headline: EPA Floats Plan To Preclude Some Adverse Air Rulings From National Effect |

Outlet Full Name: Inside EPA

News Text: Site License Available Economical site license packages are available to

fit any size organization, from a few people at one location to...

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